

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 552

By Montgomery

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Jean Burkhart,  
Director of the Seymour High School Chorus,  
the number one choir in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, Tennessee has long been known throughout the world for its rich musical heritage, and it is fitting that this General Assembly recognize those gifted music teachers who enable their students to bring honor to the State of Tennessee through their musical talents and endeavors in musical performance; and

WHEREAS, under the able guidance of Choral Director Jean Burkhart, the Seymour High School (SHS) Choral Department has achieved an extraordinary level of success, being named the number one choir in Tennessee for the second consecutive year and being the only choir in Tennessee to have achieved an A+ rating at the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) State Choral Festival; and

WHEREAS, the top choir program in Tennessee, Seymour High School had the greatest number of students to make both the All-East Choir and All-State Choir in 2006-2007, and has had a choir member selected for the Governor's School each year for the last four years; and

WHEREAS, no strangers to awards and accolades, Jean Burkhart and her mixed student choir have been invited to perform at numerous prestigious venues, including Carnegie Hall in 2002, and were recently selected for the ACDA National Competition in New York; and

WHEREAS, Director Burkhart and the Seymour High School Chorus have rightfully earned the respect and admiration of their community, as they continue to impress audiences with their remarkable voices via performances throughout the area that include 13 Veterans Day programs and 9 Musicals; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Mrs. Burkhart's students have greatly benefited from her commitment to excellence in musical education, as 50 of her choral students have been awarded vocal-music scholarships totaling over \$471,400 as of August 17, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Burkhart's legacy has inspired future music education teachers and choir directors, as 18 of those 50 students awarded scholarships are now majoring in music; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to grasp this opportunity to extend its gratitude to Mrs. Jean Burkhart for her distinguished service to Seymour High School and the students under her charge as we applaud her outstanding commitment to excellence in both music and music education; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Jean Burkhart, Director, of the top-ranked Seymour High School Chorus and wish her every success in all her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.